

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/052522

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 437 (C-0984), 11 September 1992 (1992-09-11) -& JP 04 150835 A (NEC SAN-EI INSTR CO LTD), 25 May 1992 (1992-05-25) abstract ----- PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 26, 1 July 2002 (2002-07-01) -& JP 2001 239864 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), 4 September 2001 (2001-09-04) abstract ----- -/-	1-8
X		1,2,4,6, 7



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- °A° document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- °E° earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- °O° document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- °P° document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- °T° later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- °X° document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- °Y° document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- °&° document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search	Date of mailing of the International search report
31 March 2005	11/04/2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Bernas, Y

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 408 049 A (WESTERN CLINICAL ENGINEERING, LTD; ABATIS MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES LTD) 16 January 1991 (1991-01-16) page 6, lines 17,18; claims 1-3 page 6, line 68; figure 5 -----	1,6
X	US 4 413 620 A (TUCKER ET AL) 8 November 1983 (1983-11-08) abstract; figure 1 -----	1,6
X	US 2002/073932 A1 (WILLIAMS MATTHEW R) 20 June 2002 (2002-06-20) paragraph '0032!; claims 1,21-23; figures 1,6 -----	1,6

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EP 0408049	A	16-01-1991	US 5048536 A	17-09-1991	
			CA 2020982 A1	14-01-1991	
			DE 69022645 D1	02-11-1995	
			DE 69022645 T2	29-02-1996	
			EP 0408049 A2	16-01-1991	
			US 5181522 A	26-01-1993	
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US 2002073932	A1	20-06-2002	US 6360697 B1	26-03-2002	